

Botanical Department

MEMOIRS

OF THE

WERNERIAN

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,

FOR THE YEARS 1826-31.

VOL. VI.

WITH SIX ENGRAVINGS.

EDINBURGH

ADAM BLACK, NORTH BRIDGE, EDINBURGH;
AND LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN & GREEN,
LONDON.

MDCCCXXXII.

1826.
Dec. 16. David Falconar, Esq., V. P. in the chair.—The Secretary read Mr Audubon's Account of the Habits of the Vultur Aura, or Turkey-Buzzard, in which he exploded the opinion generally entertained of its extraordinary power of smelling. Mr Audubon being present, afterwards shewed to the Society his mode of fixing recently killed birds in various attitudes, against a board marked with squares or division lines, corresponding to similar lines pencilled on the sheet of paper on which the drawing is to be made.—A specimen of the Swordfish, *Xiphias Gladius*, seven feet in length, found in the Frith of Forth, and transmitted by Mr Slight, assistant to Robert Stevenson, Esq. civil engineer, was exhibited, and described by Professor Jameson. The Professor also shewed specimens of Jet-coal, the kind used on the Continent for making ornaments, found in Wigtonshire, by Sir Andrew Agnew, Bart. These specimens, he mentioned, were found under peat-moss and above clay, on the property of Sir Andrew Agnew.

1827.
Jan. 13. Robert Jameson, Esq. President, in the chair.—Mr Audubon read a Memoir on the Habits of the Alligator, containing much new information regarding that animal.—Dr Grant then read an Account of the Anatomy of the *Octopus ventricosus*, and exhibited a dissected specimen from the Frith of Forth, of large size, and apparently of full growth.—A stuffed specimen of the Tapir of America was exhibited at this meeting; and the members were then invited by the President to view, in another apartment, some live animals, lately brought from Chile, by the Right Hon. Captain Lord Napier, of the Diamond Frigate, particularly the *Felis Puma*, or American Lion.

Jan. 27. Professor Graham, V. P. in the chair.—At this meeting Dr Grant read an Account of the Structure of the Eye of